

**NH HEATING TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 8, 2007**

The NH Heating Technician Certification Advisory Committee met on August 8, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was opened by Deputy Farley in the absence of the chair. The following members were present: Mr. Beaudoin, Mr. Ives, Mr. Dumais, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Henrick, Mr. Lundergan, and Mr. Davis. The following visitors were also present: Dianne Swain, NH Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Assn.; Jim Fusco, Granite State Trade School; and David Pelletier, Plumbers and Pipe fitter's Local #131.

There not being a quorum present, no official votes were taken and the official agenda was dispensed with. Deputy Farley outlined the goals for the meeting from the Department of Safety perspective. The first item for discussion was the completion of Appendix A for the rules. A draft template was provided to each member and the various programs were identified for each specialty license.

For Gas Piping Installer five programs were identified. For the Certified Employee Training Program (CETP), book #1 (Basic Principles), book 4.1 (Vapor Distribution System Operation Systems – Layout, Design & Selection of a Vapor Distribution System) and book 4.2 (Vapor Distribution System Operation Systems – Preparing and installation of DSO components) are required. For North American Training Excellence (NATE), the Core module is required. For the Bay State/Northern Utilities program, Mr. Lundergan will get the information to Deputy Farley. For the Granite State Trade School (GSTS), module #1(Basic Principles and Basic Piping) is required. For the National Fireplace Institute (NFI), the Gas Hearth System Certificate is required. In the absence of a quorum no official vote was taken but Deputy Farley asked the group if any had been left out, and there were none voiced. He then asked if everyone present was in agreement with the list present and the response was in the affirmative.

For Equipment Installer – Propane license, four programs were identified. For CETP, Book #6 (Appliance Installer) is required. It was noted that the CETP program is incremental in nature and therefore includes the educational materials in the gas piping installer's license. For NATE, the Installation Technician module, either hydronics or furnaces is required. It was noted that for the NATE program the core module is a pre-requisite for the installation module. For the GSTS, module #3 (Equipment Installation) is required. In the absence of a quorum no official vote was taken but Deputy Farley asked the group if any had been left out, and there were none voiced. He then asked if everyone present was in agreement with the list present and the response was in the affirmative.

For Equipment Installer – Natural license, four programs were identified. For CETP, Book #6 (Appliance Installer) with the Maine supplement is required. It was noted that the CETP program is incremental in nature and therefore includes the educational materials in the gas piping installer's license. For NATE, the Installation Technician module, either hydronics or furnaces is required. It was noted that for the NATE program the core module is a pre-requisite for the installation module. For the GSTS, module #3 (Equipment Installation) is required. In the absence of a quorum no official vote was taken but Deputy Farley asked the group if any had been left out, and there were

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none voiced. He then asked if everyone present was in agreement with the list present and the response was in the affirmative.

For Service Technician – Propane, four programs were identified. For CETP, Book #7 (Appliance Service) is required. It was noted that the CETP program is incremental in nature and therefore includes the educational materials in the gas piping installer's license and the appliance installer. For NATE, the Service Technician module, either hydronics or furnaces was required. It was noted that for the NATE program the core module and installation module are pre-requisites for the service technician module. For the GSTS, module #4 (Equipment Service) is required. In the absence of a quorum no official vote was taken but Deputy Farley asked the group if any had been left out, and there were none voiced. He then asked if everyone present was in agreement with the list present and the response was in the affirmative.

For Service Technician – Natural, four programs were identified. For CETP, Book #7 (Appliance Service) is required with the Maine supplement. It was noted that the CETP program is incremental in nature and therefore includes the educational materials in the gas piping installer's license and the appliance installer. For NATE, the Service Technician module, either hydronics or furnaces was required. It was noted that for the NATE program the core module and installation module are pre-requisites for the service technician module. For the GSTS, module #4 (Equipment Service) is required. In the absence of a quorum no official vote was taken but Deputy Farley asked the group if any had been left out, and there were none voiced. He then asked if everyone present was in agreement with the list present and the response was in the affirmative.

For the Hearth System Installer and Service Technician license five programs were identified. For CETP, Book #7 (Appliance Service) is required with the Maine supplement. There was some discussion about the disparity between the educational hours between the gas fitter's law and the NFI program. The committee indicated that the requirements in the rules were minimum standards. For NATE, the service technician module is required. For GSTS, the NFI certificate will be issued. For NFI, the standard NFI certificate will be the criteria.

Under the testing portion of the rules, there was some discussion about the 75% pass rate and the discrepancy between the 70% pass rate required by some programs. From the discussion, all programs use the 80% rate with the possible exception of CETP which may use 70%. Mr. Bailey offered to check with CETP to verify the actual pass level. In the event that CETP's pass rate is below the requirement of the rules, then applicants will be required to produce a transcript showing their passing score.

The topic then centered on ideas for proposed changes to the statute. Deputy Farley indicated that one of the issues was the separation of natural and propane in the statute. The consensus of the committee members present was that the licenses should be combined. This was based upon the fact that most training programs cover the properties of both gasses. It was mentioned that the Maine supplement for the CETP program is only approximately 12 pages long.

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A guest, Mr. Pelletier, made allegations that the committee was operating under a cloak of secrecy and that the meetings must be publicized. Deputy Farley stated that the meeting notices were posted in three public locations and also on the website. There was some discussion as to the delay on the website posting. Deputy Farley stated that he would look into website issue. He reassured the committee and the audience that there was and has never been any attempt to operate the committee in a non-public manner. There being no further discussion, the meeting was concluded. The next meeting was scheduled for September 19, 2007 at 9:00 am at the Fire Academy in a room yet to be determined. *[Author's note: This date conflicts with another heating technician related event and efforts are being made to move the date. Please confirm date on division website.]*